

COMMEMORATING THE 350TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE HOPKINS SCHOOL IN NEW HAVEN

**HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 23, 2010*

Ms. DeLAURO. Madam Speaker, I rise to commemorate the 350th anniversary of the Hopkins School, a co-educational preparatory day school in my hometown of New Haven, Connecticut and the third oldest independent school in the United States.

The rich history of Hopkins dates to well before the dawn of our American republic, when Governor Edward Hopkins of the young Colony of Connecticut established America's first charitable trust in 1650. In that trust, he set aside some of his estate for "the breeding up of hopeful youths for the public service of the country in future times." And so a one-room schoolhouse was built on New Haven Green bearing Hopkins' name. From that seed, a fine educational institution has flourished.

In the centuries since, Hopkins has molded many Connecticut youths into fine public servants. Among the school's esteemed alumni are a signer of the United States Constitution, several noted engineers and prize-winning physicists, diplomats and industrialists, governors, Senators, and more than a few presidents of Yale University.

To this day, from its home since 1926 on a hill overlooking New Haven, Hopkins still continues to mold our State's bright young minds into leaders and innovators. With an average class size of fourteen, an educational philosophy that prizes extracurricular activities, public service, and engaged citizenship in addition to the usual academic subjects, and an inclusive community that welcomes young men and women of all races, classes, ethnicities, and creeds, it is little wonder that Hopkins continually produces students that place among the top of the Nation in standardized testing.

I congratulate Hopkins and its current Head, Barbara Riley, on three and a half centuries of academic achievement. And I salute the school's continuing service to the colony, State, and young people of Connecticut. Here is to the first 350, and here's to many more.

HONORING CENTRAL FLORIDA'S VETERAN OF THE MONTH

**HON. ALAN GRAYSON**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 23, 2010*

Mr. GRAYSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor central Florida's "Veteran of the Month", a local man known for his exceptional accomplishments and volunteer efforts.

Former Marine Staff Sgt. Michael Sprouse is paralyzed. Despite his disability, Mike has persevered to become a world-class hand cyclist. He holds five marathon course records, and is the world record holder for speed on a downhill course. Mike also organizes and runs sporting clinics for individuals with disabilities all over central Florida and south Florida.

Military service is a family tradition for Mike. His grandfather and father served in the

United States Marine Corps. His father made the ultimate sacrifice in Vietnam in 1966. Mike entered the Marine Corps the day after he graduated from high school. He went on to serve 6 years as a Drill Instructor at Parris Island, the Marine Corps Recruit Depot in South Carolina.

Madam Speaker, Mike Sprouse is an inspiration. Every day, he leads by example. Mike encourages others to overcome their disabilities. He is not just an exemplary veteran, he is a phenomenal person. I am proud to recognize him as Florida's 8th District Veteran of the Month.

USS POSCO INDUSTRIES CELEBRATES ITS 100TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. GEORGE MILLER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 23, 2010*

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 100th anniversary of USS POSCO Industries of Pittsburg, California.

In 1910, Columbia Steel Company was established at the current site of the plant in Pittsburg—a single open hearth furnace making steel castings for dredging, lumber and shipping industries with 60 employees. In the 1920s, the plant expanded to include the West's first nail mill, and later, the first hot dip tin mill west of the Mississippi to serve the food processing industry.

In the 1930s, United States Steel purchased Columbia and expanded the facilities to serve big public works projects like construction of the San Francisco Bay Bridge, which consumed 200,000 tons of steel. Post World War II expansion included modern continuous sheet and tin mills, the West's first continuous rod mill, cold rolling mills, electrolytic tinning, cleaning, continuous coating and annealing lines.

United States Steel became the first manufacturer in the West of galvanized sheet and thin-gauge tinplate in the 1950s, when plant employment peaked at about 5,200 men and women.

In the 1960s and 1970s, competing materials such as aluminum and plastics, as well as the advent of mini-mills and foreign imports, led the company to focus on its most efficient and competitive product lines. When a pipe mill was added, the Pittsburg facility gained the distinction of having the most diverse product line of any steel plant in the United States.

In 1986, USS POSCO Industries was formed as a 50/50 joint venture between United States Steel and POSCO of the Republic of Korea and the new company invested \$450 million in modernizing facilities. Shortly afterwards, the company opened a Learning Center to promote continuing education. This Center continues to this day and now offers over 90 courses to employees and members of the community. Meanwhile, a new era of world-class operations began with a consistent supply of continuously cast, high-quality hot bands arriving by ship and rail from the joint venture partners.

USS POSCO was recognized in 1994 for outstanding corporate environmental achievement by the National Environmental Develop-

ment Association. In 1996, the facility attained ISO 9002 certification, acknowledging compliance with the highest international standards for quality and manufacturing processes.

In 2002, a \$115 million project to rebuild the Pickle Line Tandem Cold Mill was completed after a May 2001 fire destroyed the mill.

In 2005, USS POSCO was awarded the coveted ISO 14001:2004 certification, the premier international standard for environmental excellence. Certification recognizes the company's strict environmental standards for documenting, training, auditing, and managing all aspects of the manufacturing process. The newly-merged company's 20th anniversary was celebrated in 2006 with sales exceeding \$1 billion and 2009 saw its best safety year ever.

Currently, USS POSCO employees about 750 workers and its annual production is over one million tons. The steel the company produces is used to manufacture sanitary food cans, a variety of construction products including culverts, studs, roofing, and HVAC applications, electrical conduit, ornamental tubing, filters, computer cabinets and office furniture. USS POSCO is the largest employer in the City of Pittsburg and annually contributes about \$400 million to the local economy.

The company is the largest corporate fundraiser in the East Bay for the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation (JDRF), to which it has contributed for fifteen years, and in 2008 the company raised \$173,000. The company's employees participate in a variety of local civic activities including Junior Achievement and the Los Medanos Community College Foundation, while the company worked with the college to establish a new apprenticeship program for vocational training.

I know I speak for all Members of Congress when I congratulate USS POSCO on its 100th anniversary of continuous steel making in Pittsburg, California, and wish them continued success.

HONORING CHRISTOPHER McLAIN

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 23, 2010*

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Christopher McLain. Christopher is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 394, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Christopher has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Christopher has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Christopher has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Christopher McLain for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.